

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure formatted according to extensible markup language (XML) including data representative of a canonical UI description of a device to be controlled for use by a universal console, said universal console operable to receive at least one user preference for rendering said UI description, wherein said UI description comprises:

(1) action-commands to which said device responds, and

(2) descriptors for rendering a user interface on said universal console, said descriptors ~~providing~~ describing at least one prompt for a user to select at least one of said action-commands, wherein said at least one prompt is selected in accordance with said at least one user preference, said at least one user preference comprising at least one mode of the group comprising visual, aural, and tactile user interface modes, wherein the descriptors are capable of being instantiated on the user interface in accordance with any one of said user interface modes.

2. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for choosing one element a from a set A .

3. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 2, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for selecting a *subset* A' from a set A .

4. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for selecting one from the group of True/False, Off/On, OK/Cancel and Yes/No.

5. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for selecting an integer n in the range n_1 through n_2 , with increment δ .
6. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for selecting a real number x in the range x_1 through x_2 , with increment δ .
7. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter type for an arbitrary string s .
8. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said arbitrary string s is to be selected from a suggestion set of strings S .
9. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter type for the modification of a given first string s , resulting in a second string s' .
10. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter type for ordering the elements of set A into A' .
11. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter type for pairing set A elements with set B elements.

12. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a group construct that contains at least one of commands and subgroups.

13. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a command construct that specifies at least one action to send to the controlled element that will carry out the action-command.

14. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 13, wherein said canonical UI description includes a description of the parameters associated with the at least one action.